

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1 1-12 (canceled).

2 ^{sub} 13. (currently amended) An implantable hearing device
3 comprising:
4 at least one permanent magnet adapted for being solidly
5 attached positioned on a promontory in the area of
6 the middle ear; and
7 at least one coil adapted for placing in the area of the
8 middle ear.

1 14. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for placing in an area of an
3 ossicle chain.

1 15. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for placing at a tympanic
3 membrane.

1 16. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim
2 13, wherein said coil is adapted for positioning behind a
3 tympanic membrane.

1 17. (currently amended) The hearing device of ~~one of~~
2 claim 13, wherein said permanent magnet is radially polarized.

1 18. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim
2 17, wherein said permanent magnet is adapted to be removeably
3 attached to the promontory.

1 19. (previously presented) The hearing device of one

2 of claims 13, wherein said permanent magnet is one of a
3 circular, oval, square, or rectangular design.

1 20. (canceled).

1 21. (previously presented) The hearing device of one
2 of claims 13-16, wherein said permanent magnet is further
3 adapted to be removeably attached to the promontory.

1 22. (currently amended) The hearing device of ~~one of~~
2 claims 13, wherein said coil is further adapted for placing in
3 the middle ear ~~one of a circular or an oval design.~~

1 23. (previously presented) The hearing device of one
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain parallel
3 to the permanent magnet.

1 24. (previously presented) The hearing device of one
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain
3 perpendicular to the permanent magnet.

1 25. (previously presented) The hearing device of one
2 of claims 13-14, wherein said coil extends in a plain that is
3 between 0° and 180° relative to the magnet.

BB
1 26. (currently amended) The hearing device of one of
2 claims 13-16, wherein said permanent magnet is further adapted
3 to be positioned on the promontory in an adjustable fashion.

1 27. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim
2 26, wherein an air-gap between said permanent magnet and said
3 coil can be adjusted by post-implantation adjustment of said
4 magnet.

1 28. (currently amended) A method for enhancing auditory

2 capacity by amplifying a natural movement of a vibrating
3 ossicle tract, said method comprising the steps of:
4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear, wherein said converting said electrical
9 signal into said mechanical oscillation of said coil
10 utilizes a permanent magnet adapted for being
11 positioned solidly attached on a promontory.

1 29. (previously presented) The method of claim 28,
2 wherein said coil is adapted for placing in an area of an
3 ossicle chain.

1 30. (previously presented) The hearing device of one of
2 claims 13-16 for implementing the a method of claim 29
3 comprising the steps of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear.

1 31. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 26
2 for implementing the a method of claim 29 comprising the steps
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear.

1 32. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 27

2 for implementing ~~the~~ a method of claim 29 comprising the steps
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear.

1 33. (previously presented) The method of claim 28,
2 wherein said coil is adapted for placing at the tympanic
3 membrane.

1 34. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 16
2 ~~13~~ for implementing ~~the~~ a method of claim 33 comprising the
3 steps of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear.

1 35. (previously presented) The hearing device of claim 13
2 for implementing ~~the~~ a method of claim 29 comprising the steps
3 of:

4 converting an acoustic signal into an electrical signal;
5 and
6 converting said electrical signal into a mechanical
7 oscillation of a coil adapted for positioning in a
8 middle ear.

1 36 (new) An implantable hearing device comprising:
2 at least one permanent magnet adapted for being removably
3 attached to a promontory in the area of the middle
4 ear; and

5 at least one coil adapted for placing in the area of the
6 middle ear for directly transferring sound
7 vibrations to a component of the middle ear.

8 37 (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein said
9 coil is adapted for placing in an area of an ossicle chain.

1 38. (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein said
2 coil is adapted for placing at or behind a tympanic membrane.

1 39. (new) The hearing device of claim 36, wherein an air-
2 gap between said permanent magnet and said coil can be
3 adjusted.

1 40 (new) An implantable hearing aid comprising:
2 a permanent magnet adapted for being mounted on a
3 promontory in the area of the middle ear; and
4 a coil adapted for placing in the middle ear.

1 41 (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said
2 coil is adapted for placing in an area of an ossicle chain.

1 42. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said
2 coil is adapted for placing at or behind a tympanic membrane.

1 43. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein an air-
2 gap between said permanent magnet and said coil can be
3 adjusted.

1 44. (new) The hearing device of claim 40, wherein said
2 permanent magnet is mounted in an adjustable fashion.